

Memorial Day

THE CONFEDERATE BATTLE FLAGS.

We loved the wild clamor of battle,
The crash of the musketry's rattle,
The bugle and drum.
We have drooped in the dust, long and lonely;
The blades that flashed joy are rust only,
The far-rolling war music dumb.
God rest the true souls in death lying,
For whom overhead proudly flying
We challenged the foe.
The storm of the charge we have breasted,
On the hearts of our dead we have rested,
In the pride of a day long ago.
Ah, surely the good of God's making
Shall answer both those past awaking
And life's cry of pain;
But we nevermore shall be tossing
On surges of battle where crossing
The swift-flying death bearers rain.

Again in the wind we are streaming,
Again with the war lust are dreaming
The call of the shell.
What gray heads look up at us sadly?
Are these the stern troopers who madly
Rode straight at the battery's hell?

Nay, more than the living have found us,
Pale specters of battle surround us;
The gray line is dressed.
Ye hear not, but they who are bringing
Your symbols of honor are singing
The song of death's bivouac rest.

Blow forth on the south wind to greet us,
O star flag, once eager to meet us
When war lines were set.
Go carry to far fields of glory
The soul-stirring thrill of the story,
Of days when in anger we met.
—Dr. S. Weir Mitchell.



JEFFERSON DAVIS,
TYPICAL SOUTHERNER

By General Stephen D. Lee.

Jefferson Davis' life teaches us that character is secure. Character was his bulwark against all the slander, ridicule, insult, which the wit of man could devise, and that defense stands sure.

As a soldier his brilliant and promising career was cut short. He had no opportunities to develop the great qualities of Lee, the prince of commanders. As a statesman he did not quite reach, perhaps, the commanding stature of Calhoun, to whose work he succeeded. As an orator, he may have lacked the impetuous fervor of Yancey, the splendid declamation of Lamar; he surpassed them all in his majestic thought, the classic beauty of his strength and his thrilling earnestness. But Davis was greater than them all. He was an accomplished soldier, a great statesman and a consummate orator of his day and of all time.

Around him stood that marvelous group—Lee, the flower of chivalry;

PRECIOUS TATTERED EMBLEMS.

The return of the battle flags to the Southern States by the Federal Government was hailed with great joy by the old heroes, who wore the gray, and these tattered emblems of more strenuous days are highly prized by those who followed them so devotedly on so many fields. The Virginia flags returned are carefully stored away in the Confederate Museum, which was the home of President Davis during the Civil War. They were shipped from the War Department, each carefully wrapped in a separate package. The box also contained a number of flags on the poles on which they were originally used during the war. The flags returned

History of the Origin of Memorial Day in the South

EGYPT and Greece and Rome all made use of flowers in their funeral ceremonies. The Greeks and Romans honored their heroic dead by magnificent funerals and various anniversary celebrations. The greatest orators of the period were proud to be selected to pay tribute to the memory of their fallen warriors. Pericles was chosen to deliver the funeral oration over the slain in the Peloponnesian War, and Demosthenes over the dead in the terrible battle of Cheronæa. All great nations of the past have felt and acted upon this sentiment, and those of to-day are perpetuating the beautiful custom.

Americans honor their patriot warriors by strewing flowers over their graves, and by reciting in glowing language the historic battles in which they fell. The American Memorial Day is observed in almost every part of the civilized world—American soldiers lie buried in almost every clime, from the Arctic to the tropics, in the Far East as well as at home.

Originally designed as a day to be set apart for patriotic teaching and for the paying of a public tribute to the men who died in their country's service, Memorial Day has in recent years made its observance co-extensive with the boundaries of the nation. The decoration of the graves of the soldier dead of the Civil War was one of its impressive features, but was extended in many localities to the known graves of soldiers who had fought in any of the wars of the Government. Thus soldiers of the Revolution and of the War of 1812 were duly honored, as well as those who had served in the Civil War.

Much has been said regarding the origin of Memorial Day. General Joseph Wheeler claims that General Logan's attention, when in May, 1868, as Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, he issued orders in regard to keeping green the memory of the brave "boys in blue," had, no doubt, been called to the custom of the Southern people of annually setting apart a day to pay reverence to those who sacrificed their lives for a principle that was dearest and nearest to their hearts.

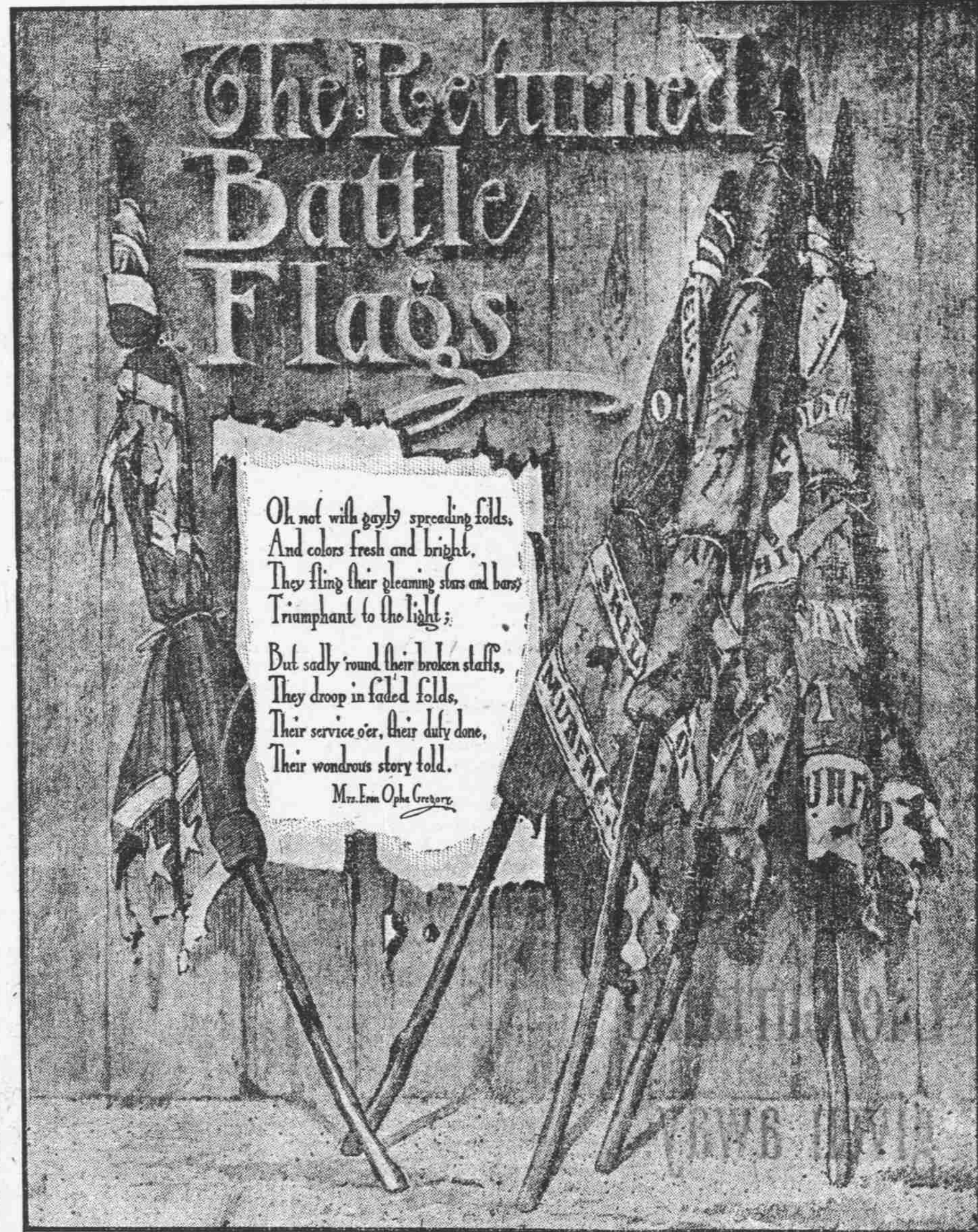
"The women of the South," says General Wheeler, "were ever assiduous in their care of the resting places of their dead, perhaps because of the customs peculiar on this side of the Atlantic to Mobile and New Orleans, where on All Souls' Day each year the cemeteries were carpeted with untold myriads of rare and costly flowers strewn by devoted hands over the graves of the beloved dead."

During the contest between the States the women and children of the South delighted to bring flowers and evergreens to decorate the graves of the martyrs to their cause. As the spring brought the anniversary of the doomsday of the "lost cause," the fair women of Southland instituted another and a special day in honor of their beloved soldiers; and the pathos of the devotion was the deeper in that the sacrifice of their lives had been made seemingly in vain.

April 26 was the day set apart by a consent spontaneous in its universal adoption. Alabama's and Georgia's first public Decoration Day was 1866. No more fitting time than the

anniversary of the loss of the cause so dear to their souls could have been chosen for the perpetuation of the memory of their heroes.

"Women, and women alone," says General Wheeler, "inaugurated the custom. Men, more reserved in the



expression of the sentiments of their hearts, might permit their departed comrades quietly to become a part of general history, but women would not have it so. The Southern States fell quickly into line, and then the custom found its way into the Northern States.

"But it is to General John A. Logan, a distinguished soldier and no less distinguished as a statesman, then Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, that the nation owes the establishment of a National Memorial Day. No doubt his attention had been called to the custom of the Southern people of annually setting apart a day to pay reverence to those who fell in battle, and saw the benefits likely to accrue to posterity by establishing a similar custom in regard to keeping green the memory of the brave "boys in blue." General Logan issued this order May 5, 1868."

Tenderly bury the fair young dead—
Pausing to drop on his grave a tear,
Carve on the wooden slab o'er his head:
"Somebody's darling slumbers here."
—Unnamed Southern Poet.

to Virginia are indeed interesting. There is, for instance, a flag of the State, made of fine blue silk, which saw service all through the war, and which was presented by the ladies of Bath County. "God Protect the Right" is the inscription. Another flag of great interest and historic value is that of the Second Virginia Infantry. This old relic went nearly all through the war, and is now but a mere fragment, having been torn almost into shreds by Federal bullets.

ROBERT E. LEE.

A gallant foeman in the fight,
A brother when the fight was o'er,
The hand that led the host with might
The blessed torch of learning bore.

No shriek of shells nor roll of drums,
No challenge fierce, resounding far,
When reconciling Wisdom comes
To heal the cruel wounds of war.

Thought may the minds of men divide,
Love makes the heart of nations one,
And so, thy soldier grave beside,
We honor thee, Virginia's son.
—Julia Ward Howe.

Jackson, the genius of war; Toombs, the thunderer of debate; Benjamin, the jurist; Campbell, the judge; Bledsoe, the statesman—men fit to



Mrs. Jefferson Davis.

measure with the knightliest. Yet from the vantage ground of history his sublime head lifts itself above them all.

NORTH CAROLINA AFFAIRS

Items of Interest From Many Parts of the State

MINOR MATTERS OF STATE NEWS

Happenings of More or Less Importance Told in Paragraphs—The Cotton Markets.

Peace Institute Kept Within the Presbyterian Church.

Goldsboro, Special.—The Presbytery of Albemarle, in session here, adopted the articles of agreement by a vote of nearly three to one. The Presbytery was addressed by Governor Glenn and Hon. J. B. Young, of Raleigh, on the matter of the Presbytery's endorsing the purchase of Peace Institute by a committee of the First Church, Raleigh. The enterprise was approved by the Presbytery and warmly commended to the ministers and churches within its bounds. The price paid was \$45,000. The institution is thus kept within the Presbyterian church.

Four Men Are Swept Over Cape Fear River Falls.

Raleigh, Special.—Swept over the falls, four men were drowned in Cape Fear River at Buckhorn Falls, Chatham county, thirty miles from Raleigh. The dead—Hans Thorson, of St. Paul, Minn., general foreman of a construction company erecting a power plant; E. B. Brady, of Moncure, assistant foreman, and two negro laborers. The men were coming down the river in a naphtha launch which was caught in the current and carried over the falls. The bodies have not yet been recovered. Thorson was to have been married here Sunday, and his fiancée Miss Thelma Lindgren, was to have left St. Paul to join him in Raleigh.

A Horrible Find.

Wilson, Special.—Between Wilson and Tarboro a porter on the Coast Line train observed a package behind a stove. Picking same up and noticing the bad order, the porter threw same out of the window without examination. A man on the country road picked up the package and on unwrapping it discovered a dead infant negro baby, presumably placed on the train at Wilmington.

Gibsonville's First Bank.

Gibsonville, Special.—The Bank of Gibsonville has just been opened, the only bank here, with W. H. Mendenhall, president, and John W. Boring, cashier. The capital stock is \$10,000 and the directors are: W. H. Mendenhall, F. M. Smith, J. L. Whitsell, W. C. Nichols, Dr. G. E. Jordan, Dr. H. P. Bowman, S. L. Murray, John W. Boring and W. R. Cobb.

Hertford Hurt by Cyclone.

Elizabeth City, Special.—A cyclone struck Hertford last week doing considerable damage to buildings, etc. A number of houses were unroofed and several outbuildings were destroyed. When the cyclone crossed the river it produced a water spout 30 or 40 feet high. No loss of human lives was sustained.

Negro Fatally Crushed.

Spencer, Special.—Walter Massey, colored, was seriously and perhaps fatally mangled between two freight cars on the Spencer yards. He attempted to pass between two cars standing about four feet apart and was caught by a shifter jamming the cars together. Massey was caught about the middle of the body and mangled almost into pulp.

New Bank For Asheville.

Asheville, Special.—Another national bank will be organized and opened for business in Asheville. The capital stock is to be \$300,000. J. H. Carter and others have forwarded to Washington application for a charter to organize a national bank. The new bank will be known as the "American National Bank," with headquarters in Asheville.

North State Notes.

A charter has been granted Alexander & Co., Charlotte, capital stock \$100,000; F. D. Alexander and others stockholders.

The conference between the text book agents and State Superintendent Joyner resulted in excellent arrangements for more depositories and better locations. A list of these will be made public in a few days.

The amount of capital stock of the Waccamaw Lumber Company dissolved recently was \$1,000,000. The company is said to own nearly 250,000 acres of timber.

The State Christian Endeavor Convention was held last week in Greensboro. Many prominent workers were present and great interest was shown by the large crowds who attended the sessions. General Secretary William Shaw, of Boston, Massachusetts, was among the visitors.

Steel Creek township, in Mecklenburg county, is suffering an epidemic of barn burning. At least six barns have been burned since new year in a radius of a few miles.

TAR HEEL CROP BULLETIN

Conditions for the Past Week as Reported by the Department.

The weather and Crop Bureau of the Department of Agriculture issues the following bulletin of conditions for the week ending Monday, April 22nd.

The cold weather of the week ending April 15th continued all the past week. The temperature for the state averaged about 7 degrees below normal. The highest was 76 degrees on the 20th in New Hanover county, and the lowest was 30 degrees on the 18th in Lincoln county and on the 20th in Buncombe county. It was impossible in the issue of April 16th to report fully on the weather of the 15th. Reports now show that that day was exceptionally cold all over the State, and it was perhaps the coldest day on record for that date. Killing frosts were general all over the State except along the immediate coast, and the damage has been very great. Ice formed in many localities, and some correspondents report ice 1-2 inch in thickness in places. The temperature rose from the 15th but it turned cool again in the latter part. Partly cloudy conditions generally prevailed. Thunderstorms were general on the 18th and 19th, and hail fell for the week was reported in Cherokee county doing some damage. The rain fall for the week was somewhat below normal except in the western counties.—A. H. Thiessen, Section Director.

IMPROVEMENT ON THE GIN.

Two Charlotte Men Invent a Device That May Revolutionize the Ginning Business—There will be a Saving of Cost in Production and Time.

Charlotte, Special.—Messrs. T. M. Webb and T. J. Davis have invented an improvement upon the present cotton gin that promises to revolutionize the system. The improvement has been tested and found to be a success. The simple little touch given by these Charlotte gentlemen saves one-third of the cost and half the time in ginning a bale of cotton. In other words, if the invention could be added to every gin in the country the cost of ginning a 13,000,000 bale crop would be reduced from \$26,000,000 to \$17,333,334. The old saying that "necessity is the mother of invention" is literally true in this case. The power bill of the ginners of the Elba Manufacturing Company was so great that President Davis kept after Mr. Webb to reduce it. Mr. Webb saw that he could not do this with the present gins, so he set his inventive mind to work on the gin with the results recorded in the foregoing paragraphs, and by the elimination of friction Messrs. Webb and Davis have invented a device that will give a longer staple, reduce the time one-half and cut the cost one-third. Expert gin men have seen the gin tried and they declare that it is the best, and only material change made in saw gin since it was invented. The power cost now is about 30 cents a bale, but the Webb-Davis patent will reduce that 10 cents, and the bale can be ginned in half the time. The average 80 saw gins turned out a bale of cotton in an hour and a quarter. The Webb-Davis gin will cut that time in two. These facts have been demonstrated time and time again at the Elba plant on the corner of East Seventh street.

Bloody Blind Tiger.

Hamlet, Special.—Love Knight, a Croatan, shot and killed John Davis, colored, on the State line six miles south of here early Thursday morning. The killing, it is said, was the outgrowth of a quarrel begun in a blind tiger. Davis was instantly killed. Knight fled and has not yet been captured. This is the sixth murder near that place within 12 months.

Bond Issue Carries.

High Point, Special.—In the election here for bonds to the amount of \$125,000, the measure carried by a good majority, less than twenty-five votes being cast against it. Seventy-five thousand of the amount is for city improvements and fifty thousand for the Randolph and Cumberland railroad. It required 305 votes to carry the election, and by three o'clock the necessary number had been secured.

Kinston Wants Training School.

Kinston, Special.—The board of aldermen passed an ordinance authorizing an election June 3d on the question of issuing bonds not exceeding \$35,000 to secure the location of the Eastern Carolina Teachers' Training School established by the last General Assembly. Kinston is making every effort to secure the location of this school here.



TO THE GLORY OF BOTH.